

IN THE DRAWING:

Please replace the original two sheets of the drawing with the enclosed replacement sheets.

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 10 are in the application. Claim 11 has been deleted.

Claim 1 has been amended to make it clear that the range is selected from a quasi-periodic range of an electric output signal of an electro-acoustic transducer corresponding to the total utterance.

Concerning the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, the Examiner will note that the term "kind" has been deleted from claim 1 and claim 11 has been canceled. The specification has been amended to correct the reference numeral 11 on page 5, line 23.

Also, the typographical error in claim 8 has been corrected.

Submitted herewith are two sheets of replacement drawings which provide labels for the modules of the drawing.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims 1 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lapere, are respectfully requested.

The reference to Lapere describes an identification method which is based on a multi-resolution model, wherein the resolution of at least one model may be at the subphonemic level, as mentioned in column 3, lines 57 and 58. After that, the subphonemic level is only mentioned in connection with an initial model which is independent of the speaker, as mentioned in column 7, lines 4 and 5. The reference to Lapere definitely does not disclose the derivation of comparative signals exclusively from a subphonemic range of the sound utterance. A resolution which reaches into the subphonemic range is not equivalent to limiting the information contained in the comparative signal to a subphonemic range.

Therefore, it is submitted that it is clear that claim 1 and 10 are not anticipated by the reference to Lapere.

The reference to Peckham et al. describes an identification method in which no selection takes place, especially no selection of a subphonemic range; rather, the total information contained in the electric output signal is utilized for forming the comparative signal, as it is clear from Fig. 7. The described "pitch-analysis", i.e. the determination of quasi-periods does not take place in order to select a single quasi-period as the sole source of information for the formation of a comparative signal, but rather for determining the time frames used for forming the comparative signal and encompassing the entire output signal in a suitable manner.

Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the references to Lapere and Peckham et al., whether taken alone or in combination, cannot disclose or suggest to the person of average skill that the formation of comparative signals is to be effected solely on the basis of the subphonemic range of an electric output signal which produces the sound utterance.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as presently set forth in the application are allowable over the art of record.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 24, 2008.

By:

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Date: September 24, 2008